State Board of Education Presentation

Department of Education December 8, 2008



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Arizona Department of Education,
Office of English Language Acquisition Services

Presentation Agenda

- Overview:
- AZELLA
 - History
 - Technical Background
 - Data
- Task Force Update
 - Training
 - Verb Tense Activity
 - Anecdotal Comments
 - Implementation
 - Preliminary Feedback
- Success Story

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AZELLA

- Background
 - Necessitated for evaluation by Title III NCLB
 - Required by A.R.S.
- Purposes
 - Assessment of PHLOTE students
 - Program placement of non-proficient PHLOTE students
 - Tracking progress of English language proficiency
 - Reclassification of English Language Learners
 - Analysis of program effectiveness

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AZELLA

- The AZELLA is a Criterion-Referenced Assessment based on the ELP Standards
- · Within the four subtests, the tests includes:
 - Multiple choice
 - Constructed-response
 - Short-response
 - Extended response
 - Oral Response

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AZELLA

- Five Levels of Assessment:
 - Pre-literacy
- Kindergarten
- Primary
- First and second grades
- Elementary
- Third, fourth, and fifth grades
- Middle Grades
- Sixth, seventh, and eighth grades
- High School
- Ninth, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grades
- Five Domains
 - Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing, and Writing Conventions
- Five Proficiency Levels
 - Pre-Emergent, Emergent, Basic, Intermediate, and Proficient.

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Assessment History

2003-2004

- Multiple assessments
 - Idea Proficiency Test (IPT), 2 Language Assessment Scales (LAS);
 Woodcock-Munoz Language Scales (WMLS), 4.
 Woodcock Language Proficiency Battery-Revised (WLPB-R)
- Multiple performance measurés
- Incompatible sets of standards, benchmarks and performance indicators
- Data analysis was difficult

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Assessment History SELP (2004-2006)

- English Language Proficiency (ELP)
 Standards adopted on January 26, 2004.
- A single state-adopted ELL proficiency assessment is necessitated for evaluation by NCLB, adopted on March 29, 2004.
- SELP alignment to ELP Standards was the highest of the off-the-shelf assessment instruments (69%)
- SELP implementation began Fall 2004

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Assessment History AZELLA Development

Deficiencies in SELP identified by federal government:

- Alignment to standards needed to be improved
- A pre-Reading and pre-Writing assessment needed to be added
- AZELLA AZ-1 form corrects these deficiencies

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Assessment History AZ-1 – 2006 Milestones

- Alignment study of AZ-1 (87-89%)
- · Field test
- Psychometric analysis of field test data
- Equated to SELP to maintain validity and reliability
- Standard setting/cut score development
- Statewide training

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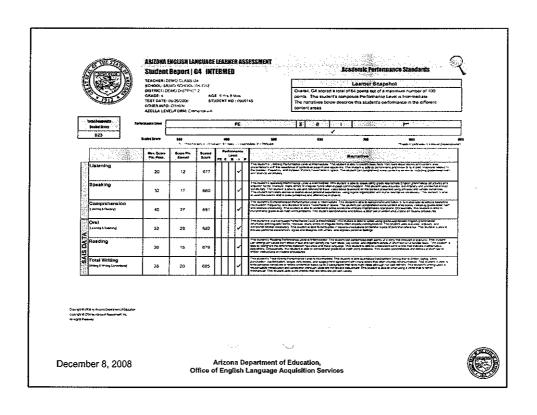


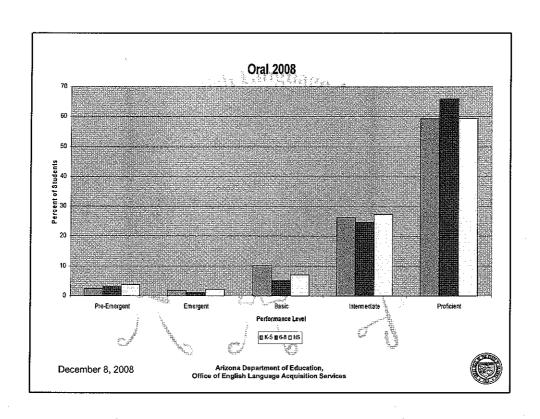
Assessment History AZELLA (2007-2009)

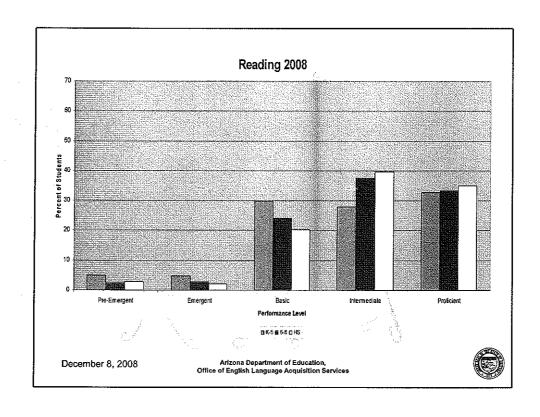
- AZ-1 continues as Arizona assessment
- Assessments scores reported directly into SAIS
- Early placement provided through handscoring
- Development of AZ-2 as a second form

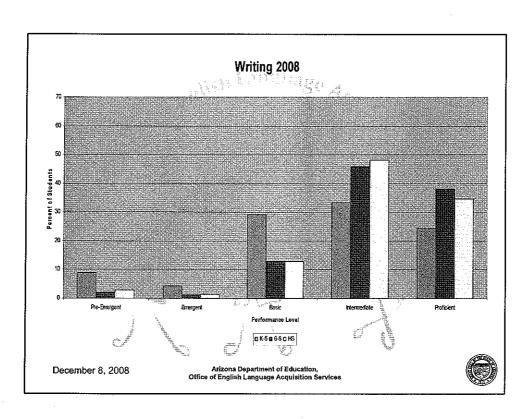
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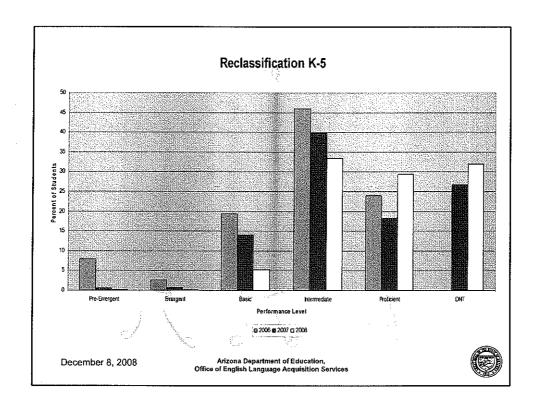


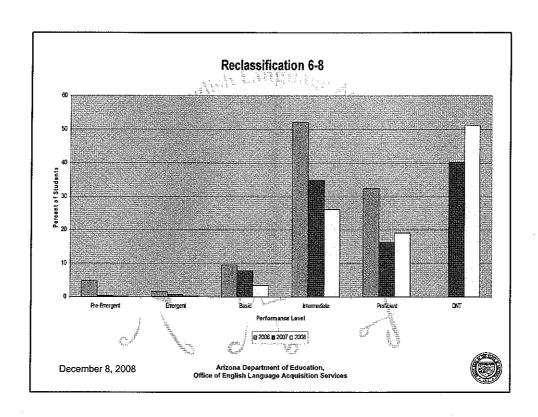


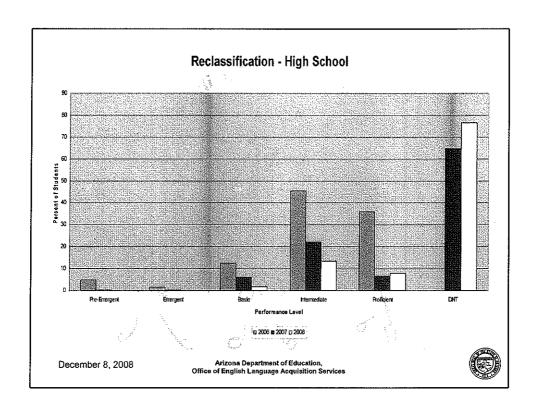












Arizona ELL Factoids

After one year, 45% of Pre-Emergent ELL students move to Basic, 37% move to Intermediate for a total of 82% first year.

Intermediates - 62% of Intermediate students remain Intermediate after 1 year; 54% of Intermediate students remain Intermediate after 2 years.

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Program Placement Structured English Immersion Classroom

- Key Components
 - Four hours of English Language Development
 - Students not mixed with non-ELLs
 - Students grouped by AZELLA proficiency levels
 - Highly Qualified SEI classroom teacher

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ELD instruction in the SEI classroom

- Instruction driven by ELP Standards and supported by Discrete Skills Inventory
- Explicit instruction in five elements of language: phonology, morphology, syntax, lexicon, and semantics. (Language Star)
- Time allocations in areas of Oral English and Conversation, Reading, Writing, and Grammar.

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SEI Teacher Training

- Round IIA (January 8 to September 25, 2008)
 - Educators trained by OELAS: 3000
 - Training sessions/venues by OELAS: 75
 - LEA training partnerships: 53
 - Reported estimate of additional teachers to be trained through partnerships: 4100
 - Evaluation ratings of OELAS training on five point scale: 4.5

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Anecdotal Accounts from SEI Teacher Training

- Heard at the beginning of training session:
 - "What are we going to do with four hours daily of English Language Development instruction with these students?"
- Heard at the end of training session:
 - "How in the world are we going to teach all of this in just four hours of ELD instruction daily?"

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Anecdotal Accounts from SEI Teacher Training

- Educators participating in SEI teacher training were often skeptical and confrontational at the beginning of the training.
- After much intensive work on the part of the OELAS trainers and the participants, applause and standing ovations were observed.

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Anecdotal Accounts from SEI Teacher Training

- A paraprofessional in an SEI classroom asked a school official why it was that her daughter, who is not an ELL, was not receiving the kind of English language instruction as in the classroom where she worked.
- She stated that ELL students are receiving a higher level of instruction.

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Anecdotal Accounts from SEI Teacher Training

- Prospective teachers at several institutes of higher learning expressed the notion that the OELAS Round II training should be included as a part of the curricular plan of all Arizona teacher training programs.
- They emphasized the importance of the explicit teaching of English language grammatical structures.

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Verb Tense Activity

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Preliminary Notes From Monitoring 2008-2009

- Disconnect between district office and the classroom implementation of the models.
- Deep desire for more training from teachers; they want to implement the Task Force ELD model.
- Partial implementation; some good faith efforts are evident.
- Philosophical differences still impeding implementation. Districts continue with existing methodology.

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A Success Story in the Making

- Superintendent support and attendance at training
- District administrative support for planning and implementation
- Partnership with Arizona Department of Education for broad-based training
- Evidence of classroom use of ELP Standards and DSI

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